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The Athenian Mercury.

Saturday, *October* 13. 1694.

Queſt. 1. *I Am not a little deſirous of Learning, and in order to make a farther progreſs therein, have begun the Collection of a Library, but the Number of Authors being ſo great upon all Subjects, that I meet with no little difficulty in my Undertaking; therefore, Gentlemen, I ſhall think my ſelf extreamly obliged to you, if (as ſoon as poſſible) you will give me your advice, who are eſteemed the beſt Authors, Ancient or Modern, that have writ (in* French, Latin *or* Engliſh) *on theſe Subjects,* viz. *the Mathematicks, Metaphyſicks, Logick, and Natural Philoſophy?*

Anſw. Since we are not deſired, nor is it our deſign here to give any method for the Reading theſe Sciences, we do not think it ſo neceſſary to obſerve any exact Order, in what books we ſhall commend, either in reſpect to their Antiquity or Value, but ſhall ſet down thoſe that in our Opinion are the beſt on each ſubject: For the Mathematicks, *Euclids Elements* by *Barrow*, *Jacquets Opera Mathematica*, *Molineux's Dioptricks*, *D' Cartes Geometry*, with *Schootens* Commentaries upon it; a little Treatiſe in *French* written by Monſieur *La Hire*, containing Conick Sections, Geometrick Places, and the Conſtruction of Equations, *Barrow's* Lectures, *Archimedes*, *Apollonius*, *Theodoſius* done by *Barrow*, all the Works of Dr. *Wallis*, Mr. *Newton's Philoſophia Naturalis Principia Mathematica*, *Kepler's* Epitomy of Aſtronomy, Mr. *Flamſted's* Doctrine of the Sphere, *Gunter's* Works, *Hugonii Opera*, *Schooten's* Miſcellanies, *Diophantus*, with *Bachetus's* Commentaries, *Pappi Collectiones Mathematicæ*, and all that has been writ by the two *Gregories*. As for Metaphyſicks we won't impoſe ſo heavy a Tax upon your purſe, but direct you only to ſuch books as we think the beſt upon the ſubject, as *Des Cartes* Metaphyſicks, *Malbranch's Search after Truth*, writ Originally in *French*, and lately done into *Engliſh*, Mr. *Lock* of Humane Underſtanding, and what Mr. *Norris* has writ upon that ſubject. The beſt Treatiſe that we know of, that has been writ in Logick, was done by the Gentleman of the *Port Royal*, and intituled, *The Art of thinking*, which, in our Opinion comprehends all that is eſſential, that has been writ in the many Numerous Volumes upon that Science, and many things that are not to be found elſewhere. Then as for Natural Philoſophy, get *D'Cartes* Principles, his Treatiſe of Meteors, and his Letters, all either writ in *French* or *Latin*, *Gaſſandus's* Works, whatever has been writ by Mr. *Boyle*, with all the Tranſactions of the *Royal Society*. Theſe are ſuch as we at preſent remember; we won't ſay, we have omitted none that are good, though we believe all that we have recommended are ſo, and the moſt preferable on each ſubject.

Queſt. 2. *Not long ſince I heard a very Ingenious Perſon affirm, That the ſtory of the Harpies had its riſe from they Locuſts, and that they were nothing elſe but Locuſts, under another Name; I deſire your Opinion of it, and the moſt probable Reaſons for it?*

Anſw. Ἀκρὶς in *Greek*, is the ſame thing as *Harbeh* in *Hebrew*, which ſignifies a Locuſt. The chief of the Harpies was called *Celæno*, or *Celæmo*, and in the *Phœnician* as well as *Syriac* Tongue, *Solamo* סלעמו ſignifieth a kind of Locuſt. The Poets called the Harpies, the Daughters of *Typhon*, by which in *Greek* was underſtood a Tempeſtuous Wind. 'Twas likewiſe a high Wind that brought the Locuſts into thoſe Countries that were diſturbed with them, as we are told in holy Writ, That God by that means ſent them into *Ægypt*; Wherefore alſo the Poets ſaid, that *Celæno* was ſiſter *to Aello*, that is, ſiſter of the Tempeſt, in *Hebrew* and *Greek*, and Daughter of *Typhon*;

Implorat clamore Patrem Typhona nefanda,

ſays *Valerius Flaccus* of this Harpy. They were chaſed away by the Daughters of *Boreas*, or of the *North*; that is, by ſtrong Winds, which happened alſo to the Locuſts of *Ægypt*. The Harpies cauſed a Famine in *Phineas's* houſe, and the Poets tell us, they took the meat from his Table: And to be ſatisfied that the Locuſts have in a little time deſolated whole Families, we need only to conſult *Bochartus*, in the beginning of the *4th book* of the *2d part* of his *Hieroicon*. The Harpies cauſed a great ſtink, and noiſom ſmell in the places where they were; ſo alſo the Locuſts, when they had nothing more to eat, died, and filled the Air with ſuch a ſtench that after cauſed the plague. *Apollonius* of *Rhodes*, in his *Argonautics*, makes *Phineas*, in ſpeaking of the Harpies, to ſay, *If they leave us but a little to eat, there proceeds from it ſuch an offenſive and inſupportable ſmell, that a man could not endure it a moment, altho he had a heart of braſs.* And thus St. *Jerom* ſpeaks of a Plague that the Locuſts cauſed in his Time in *Paleſtine*: *Vento ſurgente in mare primum & noviſſimum precipitatæ ſunt*, &c. *Cumque litera utriuſque maris acervis mortuarum locuſtarum quas aquæ evomuerant implerentur, putredo earum, & fœtor in tantum noxius fuit, ut aerem quoque corrumperet, & peſtilentia tam jumentorum, quam hominum gigneretur.*

The Harpies corrupted whatſoever they touched, according to *Apollonius*, as before cited; the ſame has likewiſe been ſaid of the Locuſts. The Harpies came to devour the proviſion of *Phineas* with ſo great a Noiſe that they heard them a-far off, which *Apollonius* thus expreſſes: *they came out of the clouds like a tempeſt, and caſt themſelves upon the meat with a great noiſe.* The Locuſts alſo made a great Noiſe with their Wings, as they fled, and Teeth; as they eat. It was impoſſible for *Phinias* and his men to drive away the Harpies, or hinder them from devouring their meat:

——Harpyæ ſemper mea pabula ſervant,
Fellere quas nunquam miſero locus, illicet omnes
Deveniunt.

It was the ſame with the Locuſts, ſince all the wit of man could not chaſe them away, or hinder them from ſpoiling whatſoever they came near. But it is further ſaid, that the Harpies went even to *Phineas's* Table, ſo that in ſpight of him they entered his houſe; the Locuſts did alſo the ſame, ſee *Joel* 2. 9. *They ſhall run to and fro in the city, they ſhall climb up upon the houſes, and ſhall enter in at the windows like a thief.* The Harpies could not be hurt; they eſcaped the ſword without pain, according to theſe words of *Virgil*,

——Invadunt ſocii & nova prælia tentant,
Obſcœnas Pelagi ferro fodare volucres.
Sed neque vim plumis ullam, nec vulnera tergo
Accipiunt.

Joel ſays the ſame of the Locuſts, *ver.* 8. *When they fall upon the ſword they ſhall not be wounded.* *Apollonius* and *Valerius Flaccus* both ſay, that *Jupiter* ſent the Harpies to *Phineas*, as a particular Effect of his Anger, from whence the firſt calls them, *the Dogs of the great* Jupiter; and *Valerius Flaccus* ſpeaks thus of 'em,

Jam ſatis huc pepuliſſe Deas, cur tenditis ultra
In famulas ſœvire Jovis? quas fulmina quanquam,
Ægidaque ille gerat, magnas ſibi legit in iras.

So *Joel* calls the Locuſts the Army of God, and the Scripture attributes them to a particular Vengeance of

God.

God. *Deorum ira et peſtis intelligitur*, ſays *Pliny*. Liv. 11. c. 29. 'Tis that which has made the *Mahometan Prieſts* ſay, *that God made the Locuſts of a little clay that remained, after he had created the Body of* Adam. And they ſtill call God *the only maſter of the Locuſts.*

Queſt. 3. *I deſire your Opinion in this Queſtion, whether or no a Woman being in Love, may make it known without any breach of modeſty? Nay, if ſhe were not rather to be commended for ſpeaking her mind, than to dye like a Fool?*

Anſ. 'Twou'd be an Heroical and Happy Adventure for a Lady to break the Ice, and give an inſtance of one that has ſucceſsfully overcome a Tyrannical Cuſtom; but the miſchief on't is, the fear of a repulſe has hindred many a fine Attempt that way. Yet we ſee no Reaſon why a Woman that has Sence enough to make a good Choice, and knows how as handſomly to diſcover it, ſhou'd be obliged to ſmother her Love; Nay, on the contrary, 'twould be the beſt method to diſcover it, ſince by that means ſhe'd ſoon either find a good Reception or a Cure, for we think it very unlikely a perſon ſhould long love any one that ſlighted 'em.

Queſt. 4. *Your ſpeedy Anſwer is deſired to the following Queries, I being a Party concerned:*

1. *Whether Uſury be Lawful, or not?*

2. *If Lawful, what Uſury is that which is forbidden in the following Scriptures,* Deut. 23. 19. Pſal. 15. 5. and Ezekiel. 18. 8.

Anſw. All of this Nature is fully Anſwered in one of our former Volumes.

Advertiſement.

☞ *THis Week was Publiſhed that long expected peice,* entituled, *The Knowledg of the World*, or the Art of well Educating Youth through the various Conditions of Life, *by way of Letters* to a Noble Lord. Vol. I. To be continu'd in that method till the whole Deſign is Finiſh'd. Of which a Full Account is given in the Preface to this Work. ——— Printed firſt at *Paris*, afterwards Re-printed at *Amſterdam*, and now Tranſlated into *Engliſh by an able Hand.* Price Bound 1 s. 6 d.

☞ THere is preparing for the Preſs *a brief Relation* of the Wonders that God has wrought in *France*, in the *Cevennes*, and the Lower *Languedock*, for the Inſtruction and Conſolation of his deſolated Church, wherein is an Account of thoſe whom God has in an extraordinary manner raiſed up in theſe laſt times to preach the Goſpel there; as alſo an *Account of the Martyrdom* of a great number of thoſe Faithful Servants of God that have there already ſuffered. By *Claude Brouſſon*, formerly Advocate of the *Parliament* of *Tholouſe*, and now for divers years preacher of the Goſpel under the Croſs in that Countrey. Tranſlated out of *French.*

For Sore and Blind Eyes.

A Gentleman lately come to *London*, that ſome time was Blind himſelf, and by that means hath attain'd to a wonderful Art in Curing all manner of indanger'd Eyes, ſo that none need deſpair, if they make their firſt application to him. For all Sore Eyes, either from ſharp Rhumes, inflam'd Eyes, Eye-lids turn'd outward, or Fiſtulas, as alſo Dim-ſights, or any prejudice by Blow, Fire, Gun-powder, Small Pox, or Eyes broke, that the watriſh Humour runs out, and the Eye falls flat in the Head, he recovers to ſight again; as alſo Convulſions and Conſumptions of the Eyes, &c. And being deſir'd by thoſe that lately made uſe of him in *Norfolk* and *Cambridge*, to let them know where he ſettles in this City; This is to give notice to them, or to any others, it is at the 2 blew Balls, in *Salisbury-court*; his Hours are from 9 to 11, and from 4 to 6 in the Afternoon, where any Artiſt may ſee his Operations. He likewiſe cures all Agues without the Cortex.

The Sale of Sterling Plate

ADventurers are deſired to take notice, That the *Muſick-Room* in *Covent-garden* is taken up in Drawing the 1000 l. *Ready mony*; therefore it is deferr'd till *Thurſday* 18. Inſtant, 1694. No Tickets to be deliver'd out after the 16th. *Tickets may be had of Mr.* Bowman *at the* Flower-de-luce, *near the* New Exchange *in the* Strand, *Mr.* Cole *at the* Anchor *over-againſt St.* Dunſtan's-Church *in* Fleet-ſtreet, *Mr.* Foden *at the* Golden-Falcon *near* Fetter-lane-end *in* Holborn, *Mr.* Burningham *at the* Black-Raven *in* Newgate-ſtreet, *Mr.* Layfeild *at the* White-horſe *in* Lumbard-ſtreet, *Mr.* de Cayne *at* Biſhops-gate, *Mr.* Holloway *at the* Cup *in* Leaden-hall-ſtreet *near* Aldgate, *Mr.* Sykamore *at the* Star on *St.* Margaret's-Hill *in* Southwark, *Goldſmiths*, Mr. Ward *at the* Mere-maid *in* Cheap-ſide, *Mr.* Millner *in* Popes-head-Alley *near the* Royal-Exchange, *Mr.* Brindley *at the corner of* Fetter-lane *in* Fleetſtreet, *Mr.* Banes *Merchant in the City of* York, *Mr.* Smith *next* Bedford-gate *in* Charles-ſtreet Covent-Garden, where it is to be drawn.

The Monthly Double Chance,

FOr Ready mony, to be Drawn at twice: In the firſt Drawing 796 l. And in the ſecond Drawing 204 l. No Tickets will be delivered out after the 20th of *November* 1694. And if full, it will be drawn ſooner.

Tickets and Propoſals may be had of Mr. *Harriſon*, at the *Hen and Chickens*, Mr. *Ragdall* at the *Kings-Head* in in *Cheapſide*, Mr. *Clement* at the *Seven Stars* in *Newgate-ſtreet*, Mr. *Cole* over-againſt St. *Dunſtan*'s Church in *Fleet-ſtreet*, Mr. *Bowman* at the *Flower-de-luce* near the *New Exchange* in the *Strand*, Mr. *Lloyds* Coffee-houſe in *Lumbardſtreet*, Mr. *Sanders* at the *Carlile-Coffee-houſe* in *Kings-ſtreet* near *Guild-hall*, Mr. *Coleman* over-againſt the *King's Brewhouſe* by the *Hermitage* near St. *Catharines*, Gold-ſmith.

A Moſt excellent and ſafe Remedy in the *Small Pox* and *Meaſles*, which kindly drives them out when flat or ſtruck in; it cures a Looſeneſs, frequently Fatal in this Diſeaſe, even to a wonder, beyond all other Remedies yet known; and upon many infallible proofs of its good Effects, expoſed for publick benefit, and is to be had at the firſt houſe on the Right Hand in *Gun-Yard* in *Houndſditch*, the Houſe with a Porch and Hatch.

Walter Lloyd at the *Antient Fowler* in *Tower-ſtreet*, *London*, Sells the Fineſt, Strongeſt Glaz'd, or not Glaz'd Gun-Powder, which by the Experience of ſeveral Perſons of Quality and others hath conſiderably out done any other Gun-powder yet made; the ſaid Strong Gun-powder, and all other ſorts of Gun-powder is Sold by him at very reaſonable Rates.

ALl Gentlemen and Ladies that are deſirous to Learn to ſpeak *Latin* and *French* fluently, and that truly and properly, according to *Grammar-Rules*, Mr. *Switerda* (Recommended to and by our Gracious King) profeſſes a very ſhort, eaſy and delightful method, and no wiſe Pedantick, by which Children may learn the ſaid Languages, and to explain any Author in two years time, and Gentlemen of Age in one Year. Thoſe who have Learned formerly, may recover them in a very ſhort time. He Teacheth *Mondays*, *Wedneſdays* and *Fridays*, from 9 in the morning, till 4 a Clock, at his Houſe in *Arundal-ſtreet*, next to the *White-lyon*; and *Tueſdays*, *Thurſdays* and *Saturdays*, from 9 till 4 a Clock, in *Queen-ſtreet*, nigh *Cheap-ſide*, at the *Green-man* nigh the Feathers Tavern, and every day in the morning from 6 till 9 a Clock, and from 4 till 9 a Clock, in *Red-croſs-court* in the great *Old-Baily*, near the *Seſſions-houſe*, at Mr. *Herberts* Houſe, where you may have the grounds of the Latin Tongue, in two ſheets of Paper; to which is added, *Syntaxis Ornata*, or Latin and French Hiſtorical Cards; as alſo a Pack to learn *Copiam Verborum*, which is a great want in many Gentlemen. He teacheth twice a week abroad.

LONDON, Printed for John Dunton at the Raven in Jewen-Street, 1694.